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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT North Korean 23 Brigade

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1. At the beginning of the North Korean retreat in September 1950, the 23 Brigade of the North Korean army was organized at Kanggye with an under-strength T/O. Early in 1951, the unit moved to Haeju, where the complement of the brigade was filled with stragglers and deserters returned to the service.
2. In early April, the 23 Brigade was assigned to the defense of the coastline near Haeju and to forays into and political domination of areas south of the 38th Parallel, particularly Yonbaek County (approximately 126-09, 37-56). Units of the brigade were disposed as follows:
 - 1 Battalion - Haeju
 - 2 Battalion - Changnyon (125-17, 38-36)
 - 3 Battalion - Ongjin (125-22, 37-56)
 - 4 Battalion (BS 8171)
3. The 4 Battalion has about 300 troops, equipped with one heavy machine gun, one anti-tank gun of undetermined calibre, and eight light machine guns. Each of the three companies in the battalion is equipped with eight PFSH and approximately 40 rifles. The Battalion headquarters has a radio.

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